

1975
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PROGRAM

SOCIAL SERVICE
DEPARTMENT

CONGREGATIONAL EDUCATION
SOCIETY



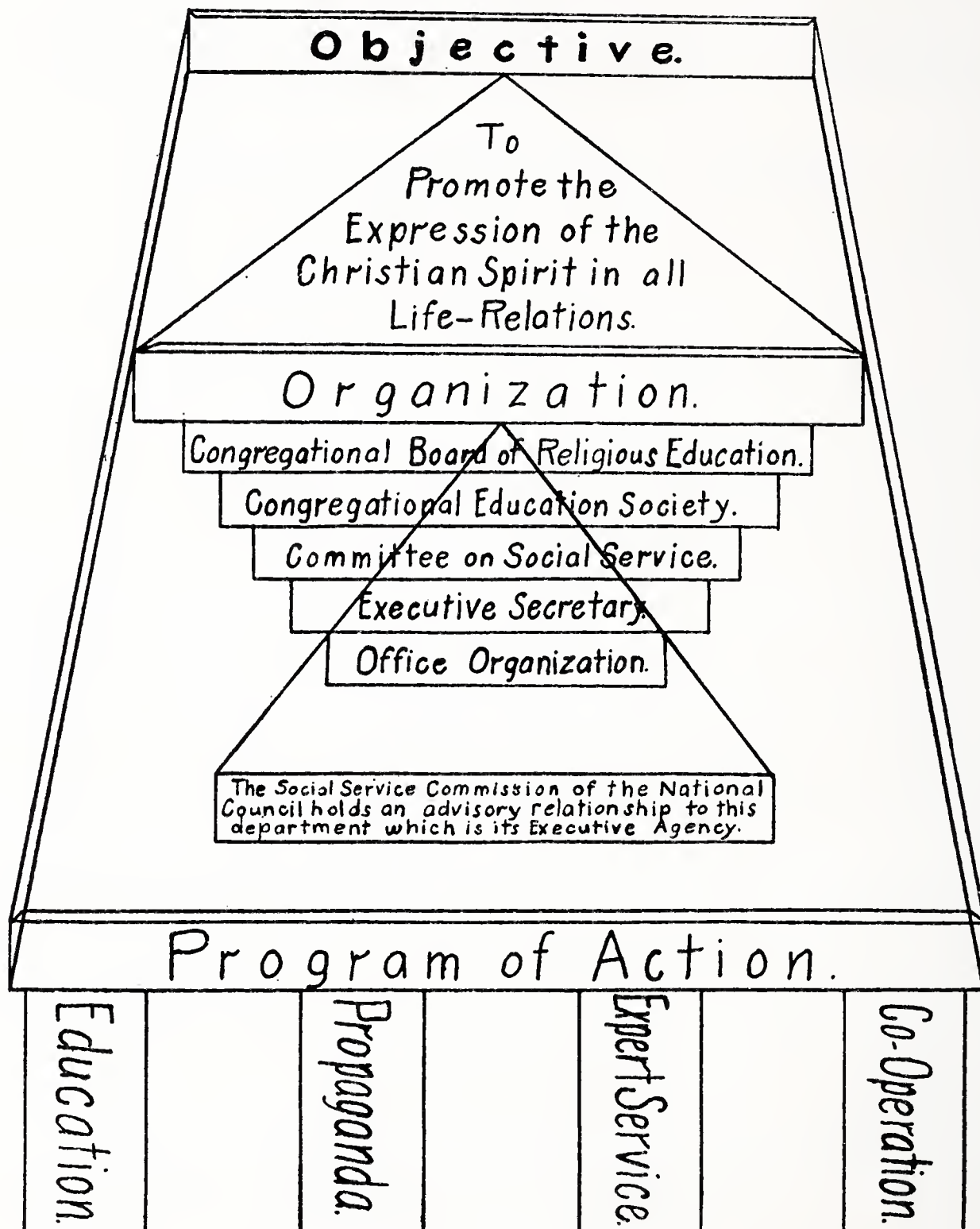
Social Service Department
Congregational Churches
14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

PROGRAM
OF THE
SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT
CONGREGATIONAL EDUCATION SOCIETY

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OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT, 14 BEACON STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Social Service of the Congregational Churches.



I

OBJECTIVE

1. To represent, guide and co-operate with the churches in the work of improving the social order.
2. To encourage friendly relations between employers and employés.
3. To help the churches reach that great mass of people who have become alienated from it and are skeptical as to the value of its message.
4. To establish a standard of social work within the churches.
5. To formulate and make effective a program of social effort adapted to the needs and requirements of each church and community.
6. To foster the organization of the men of the churches for greater efficiency in Christian effort.
7. To provide executive leadership for the Commission on Social Service of the National Council.
8. To promote the expression of the Christian spirit in all life-relations.

II

PROGRAM OF ACTION

I. EDUCATION

1. By means of literature published and distributed, including magazine articles, lesson helps and books on social service.
2. By means of study courses furnished to churches, Sunday Schools and individuals.
3. By means of institutes and conferences.
4. By means of lectures in churches, schools, colleges, and other social and educational institutions.

II. PROPAGANDA

1. Through literature.
2. Through secretarial visitation and representation.
3. Through social evangelistic campaigns.
4. Through addresses, lectures and sermons.
5. Through a Speakers' Bureau.

III. EXPERT SERVICE

1. In investigation work.
2. In parish and community studies and surveys.
3. In advising as to plans and programs.
4. In furnishing workers for special tasks.

IV. CO-OPERATION

I. WITHIN THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BOARD

1. *Editorial Department.*

- (a) Courses of study.
- (b) Lesson helps.

2. *The Congregationalist Department.*

- (a) Special reportorial work.
- (b) Articles of social interest.

3. *Student Work Department.*

- (a) Social Service campaigns in schools and colleges.
- (b) Programs for stimulating a greater interest in the church and its work.
- (c) Life Work conferences.
- (d) Efforts to enlist college men and women in specific social tasks.
- (e) Efforts to secure new recruits for the ministry.

4. *Circulation Department.*

Help to advertise and stimulate the circulation of *The Congregationalist*, Sunday-School literature and other publications of the Board.

5. *Finance Department.*

- (a) Will seek to hold all of those who have been contributing to the work of Social Service.
- (b) Will seek to secure an annual contribution from the full mailing list of the Department.

- (c) Will attempt to secure an annual contribution from each group of organized men within the denomination. (According to the statistics as given in the 1915 Year Book of the Congregational churches there are 1,681 men's organizations within the denomination, with a total membership of 91,557.)
- (d) The special contributions to the Department shall be credited upon the Apportionment Plan as additional gifts to the Education Society.

II. WITH OTHER CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETIES AND BOARDS

1. *The Home Missionary Society.*

- (a) Studies and surveys of missionary parishes and fields.
- (b) Campaigns for greater efficiency in the work of the churches.
- (c) Study of specific and peculiar problems.
- (d) Such help as can be rendered in places where a specialized work is demanded, such as rural fields, industrial centers and mining communities.
- (e) Assistance in helping to meet the Immigrant Problem.

2. *The American Missionary Association.*

- (a) Surveys and studies of negro communities.
- (b) Inaugurating and stimulating social ideals and social service in the negro churches, schools and colleges.

3. *Board of Ministerial Relief.*

Helping the churches to realize their obligation to do justly by their own servants as a beginning of the campaign for a wider social justice.

4. *The Women's Organizations.*

- (a) Help in preparation of literature and study courses.
- (b) Co-operation in institutes, conferences, and special campaigns.

5. *The American Board.*

The Department offers its services in formulating programs, preparation of literature, and in any other means by which the ideals of brotherhood and social responsibility may be so presented to the churches and communities that it will be seen that they are world-wide, and in order to make them effective in our own land they must be operative in every land.

6. *The National Council.*

The Department will co-operate with the National Council through its efforts to carry out the plans and purposes of the Social Service Commission.

III. WITH OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

1. Through the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America the Department will co-operate with all the Protestant denominations in this type of work.

2. The Secretary of the Department is an Associate Secretary of the Federal Council, a member of its Social Service Commission, its Commission on Federated Movements, and its Country Life Commission.

IV. WITH UNDENOMINATIONAL AND SECULAR SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

1. Membership in such organizations as The World Alliance for International Friendship, The Religious Education Association, The National Conference of Charities and Corrections, The Southern Sociological Congress, The Southern Educational Conference, The National Child Labor Committee, The American Association for Labor Legislation, and others of like purport.
2. Co-operation in making and presenting programs.
3. Attendance and representation of the churches at the stated conferences and meetings of such organizations.

V. WITH LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

